

Science Fields" cited nationwide unemployment of engineers, mathematicians and scientists. "Overproduction of Ph.D. degrees," it noted, "seems to be highest in computer science."

Michael S. Teitelbaum, a demographer who served as vice chairman of the Commission on Immigration Reform, said in 1996 that there was "an employer's market" for technology workers, partly because of post-cold-war downsizing in aerospace.

In fields with real labor scarcity, wages rise. Yet despite accounts of dot-com entrepreneurs' becoming millionaires, trends in computer technology pay do not confirm a need to import legions of programmers.

Salary offers to new college graduates in computer science averaged \$39,000 in 1986 and had declined by 1994 to \$33,000 (in constant dollars). The trend reversed only in the late 1990's.

The West Coast median salary for experienced software engineers was \$71,000 in 1999, up only 10 percent (in constant dollars) from 1990. This pay growth of about 1 percent a year suggests no labor shortage.

Norman Matloff, a computer science professor at the University of California, contends that high-tech companies create artificial shortages by refusing to hire experienced programmers. Many with technology degrees no longer work in the field. By age 50, fewer than half are still in the industry. Luring them back requires higher pay.

Industry spokesmen say older programmers with outdated skills would take too long to retrain. But Dr. Matloff counters by saying that when they urge more H-1B visas, lobbyists demonstrate a shortage by pointing to vacancies lasting many months. Companies could train older programmers in less time than it takes to process visas for cheaper foreign workers.

Dr. Matloff says that in addition to the pay issue, the industry rejects older workers because they will not work the long hours typical at Silicon Valley companies with youthful "singles" styles. Imported labor, he argues, is only a way to avoid offering better conditions to experienced programmers. H-1B workers, in contrast, cannot demand higher pay: visas are revoked if workers leave their sponsoring companies.

As for young computer workers, the labor market has recently tightened, with rising wages, because college students saw earlier wage declines and stopped majoring in math and science. In 1996, American colleges awarded 25,000 bachelor's degrees in computer science, down from 42,000 in 1985.

The reason is not that students suddenly lacked preparation. On the contrary, high school course-taking in math and science, including advanced placement, had climbed. Further, math scores have risen; last year 24 percent of seniors who took the SAT scored over 600 in math. But only 6 percent planned to major in computer science, and many of these cannot get into college programs.

The reason: colleges themselves have not yet adjusted to new demand. In some places, computer science courses are so oversubscribed that students must get on waiting lists as high school juniors.

With a time lag between student choice of majors and later job quests, high schools and colleges cannot address short-term supply and demand shifts for particular professions. Such shortages can be erased only by raising wages to attract those with needed skills who are now working in other fields—or by importing low-paid workers.

For the longer term, rising wages can guide counselors to encourage well-prepared

students to major in computer science and engineering, and colleges will adjust to rising demand. But more H-1B immigrants can have a perverse effect, as their lower pay signals young people to avoid this field in future, keeping the domestic supply artificially low.

IN HONOR OF THE CRUSIN' HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES AT THE ROUTE 66 RENDEZVOUS

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2000

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, the City of San Bernardino will be hosting its 11th Annual Route 66 Rendezvous event downtown this month. The event is expected to draw over 500,000 classic car fans to the downtown, with 2,448 prime classic cars at the event (the number of miles of the Route 66 highway). I would like to salute the event's inductees into the Crusin' Hall of Fame, an impressive and truly remarkable collection of honorees this year:

- Mattel, in honor of the significant impact the company has made in the American Automotive culture with the development of the miniature vehicles "Hot Wheels."

Mattel is known as a leader in the world of toy design, manufacturing, and marketing. Mattel introduced "Hot Wheels" miniature vehicles in 1968. The three-inch long cars and trucks reached out and captured children's imaginations. Mattel celebrated the 30th anniversary of "Hot Wheels" in 1998, and reached a milestone when they produced the two billionth Hot Wheel car, making Mattel the producer of more vehicles than Detroit's big three auto makers combined.

- The Beach Boys, a popular sixties and seventies band that popularized surfing and cruising music, in honor of the significant part their music plays in the American automotive culture.

From Hawthorne, California, the three Beach Boy brothers—Brian, Dennis and Carl Wilson, plus cousin Mike Love and friend Al Jardine had some of the most intricate, beautiful harmonies heard from a pop band. Their music is still popular and can be heard on countless radio stations and car cruises around the nation.

- The J.C. Agajanian Family, a family with over fifty years in motorsports racing, in honor of their many significant contributions in the promotion, participation, and involvement in the American automotive culture.

J.C. Agajanian, one of the most influential men in American motorsports history, is known for his involvement and many achievements in the motorsports world. In 1998, the Agajanians marked their 50th Golden Anniversary of promoting, participating, and involvement with the famed Indianapolis 500.

- The Woody, the hand-built "sport utility vehicle" of its day, in honor of the significant role this unique automobile played in the American Automotive culture.

Since the sixties, these wagons have been popular collector's items. They are in such demand that old cars with splinters instead of

wood are being lovingly restored and shown off at car shows and cruises throughout the United States.

DOGS IN SERVICE TO MANKIND

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2000

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the American Kennel Club's celebration of "Dogs in Service to Mankind." The American Kennel Club, established in 1884, is the world's largest purebred dog registry and the nation's leading not-for-profit organization devoted to the support of purebred dogs, responsible pet ownership and canine health.

As well as providing invaluable and beneficial companionship to millions of Americans, purebred dogs have provided service to mankind for generations and in a myriad of ways. Only a few examples are the dogs who accompanied our servicemen in every war; who rescue Americans every year from fire, entrapment and drowning; and whose powers of scent enable them to locate lost children, dangerous chemicals and illegal materials.

Dogs give vital assistance to the handicapped, ill and elderly, and these amazing creatures can even warn a person that a heart attack or epileptic seizure is about to occur. Many Americans have benefitted from the companionship and unconditional love that service dogs provide.

So today, I join the American Kennel Club in its recognition of dogs' extraordinary capabilities. I am delighted to join in honoring these wonderful animals whose service to humankind deserves our utmost appreciation.

HONORING HO'OIPO DECAMBRA, 2000 ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON COMMUNITY HEALTH LEADER

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2000

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the tremendous contributions of Ho'oipo DeCambra, Executive Director of Ho'omau Ke Ola, for her work to improve the health and well-being of her rural community in Wai'anae, Hawaii. Ho'oipo's inspired leadership and innovative programs led to her being named a 2000 Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leader.

Only ten people nationwide receive this prestigious award each year. The Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leader award, the nation's highest honor for community health leadership, includes an \$100,000 cash award—\$95,000 goes to enhance the awardee's community health program and \$5,000 is a personal award.

Ho'oipo DeCambra has developed and implemented successful substance abuse treatment programs and a women's cancer project utilizing traditional Hawaiian values and healing practices to reach out to the Native Hawaiian community, which suffers from a high incidence of substance abuse and cancer. A long-